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1975/02/06

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Authority MD 978520
JWF DOD 9/25/75

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

S/S

file China
7502651

SECRET/NODIS

February 6, 1975

To: The Secretary
From: EA - Philip C. Habib
S/P - Winston Lord *ur*
INFORMING THE PRC ABOUT
MILITARY REDUCTIONS ON TAIWAN

In accordance with your instructions, we will call in Han Hsu to inform him about the military reductions on Taiwan that are presently planned for 1975. We are told by DOD that none of this information is included in any statements or documents being made public. Subject to State Department approval, DOD intends to make a public statement in a few days about reductions in some overseas bases but this statement will not mention Taiwan. We will coordinate with DOD before any public statement is made about Taiwan reductions.

If you concur, we will give Han Hsu the following written statement:

In accordance with the Shanghai Communique, and as stated by Secretary Kissinger during his visits to Peking, we are continuing to reduce our military presence on Taiwan. Secretary Kissinger has asked us to inform you that the next steps in this ongoing process will be as follows:

The U.S. facilities at the air bases at Tainan and Ching Chuan Kang will be placed on a caretaker basis. The action on Tainan will take place before mid-1975. At Ching Chuan Kang it will be done before the end of 1975. Meanwhile, as you are aware, the F-4E squadron at Ching Chuan Kang will depart in May 1975. With these changes, U.S. military forces on Taiwan will be reduced to a level of 2,800 men by mid-1975.

We will inform you *yourself* of the level to be reached at the end of 1975, which will be lower.

added by
WAK

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We will also make the pitch on the Albert/Rhodes trip.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you authorize us to use the above statement with Han Hsu.

APPROVE 

DISAPPROVE

Drafted by: EA:OArmstrong/PCHabib:jnp
2/6/75 Ext. 29596

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